

REMARKS

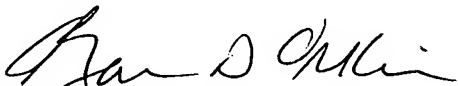
The specification, claim and abstract amendments have been made in order to conform this patent application to customary United States patent practice.

Claims 1-20 have been cancelled and rewritten as new claims 21-40 in order to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Examination and allowance of pending claims 21-40 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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METHOD AND DEVICE FOR GUARANTEEING AN AUTHORISED AND
PROCESS-OPTIMISED USE OF SEMI-FINISHED PIECES IN A
PRODUCTION UNIT

ABSTRACT

A method and device for guaranteeing an authorized and process-optimized use of semi-finished pieces for product generation in a production unit are disclosed. In order to guarantee that semi-finished pieces not released for production or similar cannot be processed unknowingly, said method comprises the following steps: reading calibration data for calibration of the production unit to the semi-finished pieces for processing and reading the data on a given maximum number of products to be produced (maximum number) from an external storage medium supplied with the semi-finished product, calibration of the production unit according to the calibration data for the delivered semi-finished products, programming the production unit to the maximum permitted number of products with the best possible calibration, comparison of a number of produced products since an authorized starting point (actual number) with the maximum number and issuing a message on the maximum number being exceeded by the actual number.